

Message Text

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12

ACTION HEW-08

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PASS DHEW/OIH FOR EHRLICH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, JA,US,OCON

SUBJECT: DHEW VISIT TO JAPAN

SUMMARY: THIS CABLE TRANSMITS SUMMARY RECORD JOINTLY
RELEASED AT PRESS CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 14. END SUMMARY

1. JOINT HEW/MHW MEETING CONCLUDED WITH ADOPTION OF SUMMARY
RECORD, WHICH MADE AVAILABLE AT JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE IN
AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 14. PRESS CONFERENCE ATTENDED BY 30-40
JAPANESE PRESSMEN AND THREE MEMBERS US PRESS CORPS. CONSENSUS
OF PARTICIPANTS AND EMBASSY IS THAT CONFERENCE WAS MOST
SUCCESSFUL AND USEFUL. TEXT OF SUMMARY RECORD FOLLOWS.

2. "SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE U.S.-JAPAN
COOPERATIVE STUDY PROGRAM FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE
(FEBRUARY 12-15, 1974, TOKYO)" DURING THE WEEK OF
FEBRUARY 12-15 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EDUCATION AND WELFARE (HEW) OF THE UNITED STATES AN
OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (MHW) OF JAPAN MET TO
DISCUSS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM IN HEALTH
AND WELFARE AND TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC FOOD AND DRUG
ACTIVITIES.

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THE COMMISSIONER OF FOOD AND DRUGS OF HEW AND MEMBERS OF

HIS STAFF MET WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE VICE-MINISTER OF MHW AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND TO DEVELOP A PRELIMINARY PLAN FOR FUTURE COLLABORATION IN FOOD AND DRUG ACTIVITIES. THE RESULTS OF THEIR DELIBERATIONS ARE SUMMARIZED IN THE ANNEX TO THIS SUMMARY RECORD.

DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD ON THE POSSIBILITY OF COLLABORATION IN MANY HEALTH AND WELFARE FIELDS OF MUTUAL CONCERN AND INTEREST. THE DEPARTMENT AND THE MINISTRY DECIDED TO CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN OVERALL COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIP WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, VISITS OF INDIVIDUAL SCIENTISTS AND DELEGATIONS, HOLDING OF JOINT SYMPOSIA, JOINTLY SPONSORED RESEARCH ETC.

"APPENDIX TO SUMMARY RECORD" OFFICIALS AND STAFF OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (MHW) WERE HOSTS TO THE COMMISSIONER AND SEVERAL STAFF MEMBERS OF THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA), DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE OF THE UNITED STATES, DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12-15, 1974. DURING THE SERIES OF MEETINGS HELD, MEMBERS OF THE MHW AND THEIR COUNTERPARTS FROM THE FDA DISCUSSED THE SCIENTIFIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK OF FOOD AND DRUG MATTERS IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

FOLLOWING WELCOMING REMARKS BY MR. MASAKATA TOZAWA, ADMINISTRATIVE VICE-MINISTER OF MHW, AND A RESPONSE BY DR. ALEXANDER SCHMIDT, COMMISSIONER OF FOOD AND DRUGS, AN EXPLANATION OF THE OVERALL FRAMEWORK OF THE DRUG AND FOOD ADMINISTRATION IN JAPAN WAS GIVEN BY THE DIRECTORS GENERAL OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL AFFAIRS BUREAU AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BUREAU, RESPECTIVELY. DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD ON DRUG MATTERS THE SECOND FULL DAY OF THE MEETING AND FOOD ISSUES WERE COVERED THE FOLLOWING DAY. DURING THE MEETINGS, PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS PAID TO SCIENTIFIC MATTERS RELATING TO DRUG SAFETY, EFFICACY, AND QUALITY AND TO FOOD ADDITIVES AND CONTAMINANTS, ISSUES WHICH PRESENT SIMILAR PROBLEMS IN BOTH COUNTRIES. ON THE LAST DAY OF THE JOINT MEETING, PLANS FOR FUTURE COOPERATIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTIVITIES WERE DISCUSSED AND BOTH SIDES AGREED TO CONTINUE THE EXPLORATION OF A CONCRETE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.

THE DESIRABILITY OF REGULAR AND FREQUENT EXCHANGE OF SCIENTIFIC AND REGULATORY INFORMATION WAS AGREED UPON, USING SIMILAR EXCHANGE VISITS OF OFFICIALS AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF, EXCHANGES OF PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES LEADING TO CLOSER LIAISON. THE PARTIES AGREED THAT

IMPORTANT REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS IN EACH COUNTRY WOULD BE
PROMPTLY COMMUNICATED TO THE OTHER.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE MHW WOULD SEND A MISSION TO VISIT
THE FDA IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO CONTINUE
THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.
SHOESMITH

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